Minister puts remote health on national agenda

Australian Health Minister’s have reached agreement on a national registration and accreditation model for health professionals.

The Northern Territory Minister for Health, Kon Vatskalis, today attended the Health Ministerial Council in Melbourne.

Mr Vatskalis said his colleagues agreed to the Territory’s suggestion for remote representation on the national board.

“We also discussed my plan to improve remote health services and the need to get more doctors to the bush,” he said.

“There is a need for more national incentives to encourage doctors to remote areas where they are needed the most.”

The Minister also used the meeting to highlight the need for a Territory based medical school.

“Home grown is always best. If we can train our own doctors and health professionals here in the Territory, then they are more likely to stay and build their careers here.

“Flinders University in Adelaide currently has a course that does involve some training in the Territory but I do believe there is a need for a full course based in Darwin.”

Contact for media queries: Nikola Lekias 0438323660